

of Homoeopathic System of Medicine in the General Hospital, run by the Cantonment Board, Delhi, because all systems can not be provided within the budget.

Poor Inventory Management

2747. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news report appearing in the Business Standard dated 1st January, 2001 under the caption, "CAG pulls up Army for poor Inventory Management";

(b) if so, his reaction thereto; and

(c) what action is proposed to be taken to remove the deficiencies in the Inventory Management in Ordnance Services as pointed out by the CAG in his report?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (c) The news-item appearing in the Business Standard is based on the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG's) report on "Review of Inventory Management in Ordnance Services" published under reference of Union Government (Defence Services) No. 7-A of 2000. This report was tabled in the Parliament on 22.12.2000. The report of CAG of India was prepared after Director General of Audit Defence Services has conducted a study on this subject during 1999 and 2000 when its team visited five Central Ordnance Depots (CODs) viz; at Agra, Delhi Cantt. Jabalpur, Kanpur and Central Armoured Fighting Vehicle Depot (CAFVD) Kirkee.

The aim of the study was to carry out a special review of the Inventory Management policies, practices and procedures, with a view to suggesting measures to improve management of inventory held by the CODs. The aim of the report is not to identify and report failures, but to effect refinement in the existing systems. Accordingly, a number of recommendations, have been made in the report, for consideration and implementation by the Army Ordnance Corps, in particular, as also other connected organisation like Department of

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RAJYA SABHA

Defence Production & Supplies, Directorate General of Quality Assurance, Directorate of Standardisation as well as the Government.

On receipt of the CAG report, the Army Headquarters and the Army Ordnance Corps reviewed existing procedures and system and took effective steps to improve the working of the Central Ordnance Depots.

A deliberate and progressive approach has been adopted by the Army Headquarters over the years to apply modern management techniques in the system of inventory management without compromising on issues important for operational logistics. Some of the measures adopted are:—

(a) Direct issue from Central Depots to Workshop, New Raisings, Regimental Centres, Academies etc.

(b) Application of Transportation Model on increasing number of items.

(c) Direct procurement by Regional Depots.

(d) Cash allowance and monetary grants to troops/units.

Unidentified men spotted drawing RAW Office map

2748. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item "Unidentified men spotted drawing RAW Office maps" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated the 28th January, 2001;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it has been possible to apprehend the miscreants and hand them over to the local police;

(d) if so, whether the identity of the intruders and their intention have been established; and

(e) if not, what steps will be taken to nab the miscreants?